CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 2 MARCH 1989 AT 10:00 A.M.
IN BC-110, SGW CAMPUS

ATTENDANCE: Present were:

C.H. Langford (Chair), V. Baba, P. Fazio, D. Gold, B. Jenkins, G. Johns, K. Lipke, B. MacKay, R.H. Pallen, E. Reyes, R. Rudin, C.Y. Suen, M.N.S. Swamy, A.J. Williams, S. Bulzan (Secretary)

Absent with regrets:

M. Kusy

Absent:

A. Mohammad

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED & DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

SRC-89-03-02-D66 RESEARCH CENTRES - NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. C.H. Langford occupied the Chair.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.1 In reference to item 'C' of the February agenda "Guidelines for Senate Evaluation of University Research Centres", Dr. Fazio requested that the number of votes in favour of forwarding the Guidelines to Senate, be recounted.

The votes were recounted and remain as recorded in the 2 February 1989 minutes:

6 in favour. 0 opposed. 2 abstentions.

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1.2 Dr. Fazio inquired about whether the Chair would be making a statement to Senate at the meeting of 3 March 1989 with regard to the additional sentence he requested be added to the document "Guidelines for Senate Evaluation of University Research Centres".

The Chair assured Dr. Fazio that a statement will be presented to Senate at the 3 March meeting.

1.3 Dr. Fazio suggested that, in his statement to Senate, the Chair add the following sentence to the end of page two under `Purpose': "... and that Senate establish a process to foster such an environment for these Centres".

1.4 It was moved and seconded (Baba, Gold) and unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Senate Research Committee meeting of 2 February 1989 be approved, as corrected.

II. CHAIR'S REMARKS

A. La Fondation Québécoise en Environnement

2.1 The Chair reported that Concordia's Environmental Sub-Committee had prepared a list of the University's research projects for the `Fondation Québécoise en Environnement' which are of environmental importance to Quebec.

2.2 The SRC requested that a copy of this list of projects be circulated to them for future discussion.

2.3 At the request of the SRC, the Environmental Sub-Committee is composed of the following members:

C.H. Langford, Chair
P. Anderson, Biology
G. Johns, Management
R. Pallen, Arts & Science
R. Patterson, Chemistry
A. Ramamurthy, Civil Engineering
S. Sarraf, Civil Engineering
G. Vatistas, Mechanical Engineering

B. Update on Networks of Centres of Excellence Program

2.1 The Chair announced that the NCE proposal in Transport, in which Concordia is a major participant, has been notified of a site visit.

2.2 Dr. Gold announced that the Gerontology proposal at the University of Toronto, (which involves two Concordia researchers), also received notice of a site visit.

2.3 The Chair stated that there is rumour of a supplemental budget which may become available to fund a similar number of proposals at a lower level.

2.4 The Chair indicated that the winners of the NCE program are likely to be announced in June.

C. Director of Research Services - A.J. Williams

2.1 Ms. Williams stated that SSHRC will be extending its Canada Research Fellowship Program for one more year.

2.2 It was announced that the deadline for FCAR Centre grant applications is April 15th and the deadline for NSERC Strategic grant applications is May 1st.

D. Visit of SSHRC President Paule Leduc

2.1 Dr. Johns inquired about the possibility of discussing the shift from project-based funding to program-based funding with the SSHRC President when she visits Concordia.

III. SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH CENTRES

3.1 The Chair indicated that the document `Research Centres - Needs and Opportunities' (SRC-89-03-02-D66) deals with a series of problems and suggestions which were proposed by the directors of Research Centres.

3.2 The SRC discussion focused on how Research Centres can be nurtured without leaving out individual researchers. A suggestion was made to meet with individual researchers to find out, as was done with Centres, what kind of concerns they have.

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3.3 The Chair suggested that the SRC provide any changes to the document by 16 March 1989. The second draft will be distributed to the Committee for the next meeting.

IV. STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH FUNDING

4.1 The Chair stated that the document `An Exploration of the Factors Limiting Growth of Research Funding at Concordia' (SRC-88-12-01-D59, revised) was forwarded to Senate.

4.2 The SRC suggested transmitting the document to faculties for their suggestions.

4.3 The Chair indicated that the document will be sent through the Deans to the faculties with a request to provide suggestions for:

a) areas in which the SRC can act in the short-term;
b) general reflections on how the SRC might take longer-term action.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.